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PHARMACY

**Joint Guideline on Pharmacist Administration of Influenza Vaccine
Minimum Requirements**

Regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (Department)/Drug Control Program permit pharmacists who have completed a duly accredited training to administer flu vaccine. The Board of Registration in Pharmacy and Drug Control Program have adopted a Minimum Requirements Guideline (attached) outlining the requirements for pharmacist participation.

Department regulations at 105 CMR 700.004(B)(6) pertaining to administration of influenza vaccine may be viewed at <http://www.mass.gov/dph/dcp>.

Accredited training courses* currently offered by the ACPE meeting the requirements of 105 CMR 700.004(B)(6)(c)1. include, but are not necessarily limited to:

1. **Immunization Update 2003: Advances in Practice**
ACPE Universal Program No. 202-000-03-279H01
APHA website at www.aphanet.org
2. **New Advances in Influenza Vaccination** – a multimedia CE Program for Pharmacists.
ACPE Universal Program No. 202-000-03-289-H01.
Accessible at www.Pharmacist.com

All such courses must, at a minimum, meet U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidelines and be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacist Education (ACPE), or similar health authority or professional body, and include pre-administration education and screening, vaccine storage and handling, administration of medication, record-keeping and reporting of adverse events

*** Information on other accredited courses is available through professional organizations, colleges and other sources.**

Joint Policy of the Drug Control Program and Board of Registration in Pharmacy

Requirements for Influenza Vaccine Administration by Pharmacists

The MA Department of Public Health is making influenza vaccination more accessible and easier to obtain by allowing pharmacists, who have completed duly accredited training, to administer injectable influenza vaccine as well as FluMist™, intranasal influenza vaccine. The table below compares the requirements for administration of injectable vaccine to those for intranasal influenza vaccine. Regulations can be found at 105 CMR 700.004(B)(6).

General Requirements	Injectable Influenza Vaccine	Intranasal Influenza Vaccine
Training in accredited program*	Required	Required
Additional DPH training	No longer required	None
Inform DPH of intention to administer	No longer required	Not Required
Report to DPH number of doses administered each season	Suggested	Suggested
CPR	Recommended	Recommended
Age Limits	18 years of age and older	18 through 49 years of age

Physician Orders Are Required	Injectable Influenza Vaccine	Intranasal Influenza Vaccine
To administer influenza vaccine	Prescription, physician directive, or standing order***	Prescription, physician directive or standing order**
To administer single dose emergency epinephrine	Standing order	Standing order

*Must keep proof of training on file in pharmacy.

**Model standing orders are available at the DPH website
www.mass.gov/dph/cdc

***Amended, as authorized by Department on July 01, 2004

Information on influenza, vaccines and the current flu season can be accessed at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, www.cdc.gov and the Department's website at www.mass.gov/dph.

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